

**TITLE 511 INDIANA STATE BOARD OF  
EDUCATION**

**Final Rule**  
LSA Document #04-277

**DIGEST**

Adds 511 IAC 6-7.1, effective with the graduating class of 2010, to adopt new minimum high school graduation requirements, adopt new Core 40 diploma requirements, and adopt Core 40 with academic honors and Core 40 with technical honors diplomas to replace the current academic honors diploma. Effective 30 days after filing with the secretary of state.

**511 IAC 6-7.1**

SECTION 1. 511 IAC 6-7.1 IS ADDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**ARTICLE 6. DRIVER EDUCATION; GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS; NONSTANDARD  
PROGRAMS; HIGH ABILITY STUDENTS; POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT**

**Rule 7.1. Graduation Requirements for Students Who Begin High School in the 2006-2007 School Year  
and Subsequent Years**

**511 IAC 6-7.1-1 Definitions**

**Authority:** IC 20-1-1-6; IC 20-10.1-4; IC 20-10.1-5.7-2

**Affected:** IC 20-10.1-4-5; IC 20-10.1-4.5-2

**Sec. 1. (a) The definitions in this section apply throughout this rule.**

**(b) "Board" means the Indiana state board of education.**

**(c) "Career-academic sequence" means a flexible sequence of career-technical and academic courses that:**

**(1) help a student explore and prepare for a specific career area or group of related occupations;**

**(2) are selected and defined by school corporations;**

**(3) include progressive exposure to the world of work, with some leading to a certificate recognized by  
business and industry.**

**As a student progresses in a sequence and learns more about a specific career area, the student may remain in  
the same career area throughout high school, explore an additional career area, or enroll in a multicrodit  
career-technical program designed to help the student develop knowledge and skills related to a specific  
occupation.**

**(d) "Credit" means satisfactory completion of a course that meets the following requirements:**

**(1) The course is an approved course under 511 IAC 6.1-5.1.**

**(2) The course is consistent with Indiana academic standards.**

**(3) The course includes:**

**(A) a minimum of two hundred fifty (250) minutes of instruction per week for one (1) semester for a  
school operating on a traditional schedule;**

**(B) a minimum of 85 minutes of instruction per class period, exclusive of passing time, for a school  
operating on a block schedule; or**

**(C) a minimum of 70 minutes of instruction per class period, exclusive of passing time, for a school  
trimester schedule**

**Multiple credit may not be awarded for the same course unless the approved course description permits  
multiple credits to be awarded.**

**(e) "High school diploma" means a certificate of graduation issued by the governing body of a school**

corporation certifying that the student has satisfied the minimum requirements for graduation from a high school of the school corporation.

(f) “Semester” means one-half (½) of a regular school year. (*Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6-7.1-1*)

#### **511 IAC 6-7.1-2 Minimum standards**

**Authority:** IC 20-1-1-6; IC 20-10.1-4; IC 20-10.1-5.7-2

**Affected:** IC 20-10.1-4-5; IC 20-10.1-4.5-2; IC 20-10.1-16-13

**Sec. 2.** The following general principles are a guide to school corporations in certifying to the board that students are qualified for high school graduation:

(1) The standards in section 4 of this rule are minimum requirements for granting a high school diploma. School corporations may establish graduation requirements that exceed these minimum standards, in which case the local standards take precedence.

(2) The board recognizes only high school diplomas conferred by schools accredited by the board. (*Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6-7.1-2*)

#### **511 IAC 6-7.1-3 Semester requirements; waiver**

**Authority:** IC 20-1-1-6; IC 20-10.1-4; IC 20-10.1-5.7-2

**Affected:** IC 20-10.1-4-5; IC 20-10.1-4.5-2; IC 20-10.1-16-13

**Sec. 3. (a)** To be graduated from a high school, a pupil shall attend at least seven (7) semesters in grades 9 through 12.

(b) A school corporation may, under procedures adopted by the governing body, waive the seven (7) semester requirement if:

(1) failure to waive the requirement would effectively prevent the student from graduating from high school; or

(2) the student likely would have qualified for a gifted and talented education program waiver had it been available, and the waiver is for the purpose of:

(A) enrolling in an accredited postsecondary educational institution, and the student has been accepted for enrollment; or

(B) furthering the student’s education through military enlistment, and the student has an enlistment contract that contains an educational component.

(c) A decision of a high school to deny a request for a waiver may be appealed to the superintendent, and a decision of a superintendent to deny a request for a waiver may be appealed to the governing body of the school corporation.

(d) Local decisions on requests for waivers shall be documented. (*Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6-7.1-3*)

#### **511 IAC 6-7.1-4 Minimum required and elective credits**

**Authority:** IC 20-1-1-6; IC 20-10.1-4; IC 20-10.1-5.7-2

**Affected:** IC 20-10.1-4-5; IC 20-10.1-4-7; IC 20-10.1-4.5-2; IC 20-10.1-16-13

**Sec. 4. (a)** For a student who enters high school in the 2006-2007 school year or a subsequent school year, a minimum of forty (40) credits is necessary for high school graduation. Thirty-four (34) of the credits shall be earned in the areas of study specified in subsection (b), and six (6) of the credits shall be earned from courses in these and other areas of study listed in subsection (b) and 511 IAC 6.1-5.1.

(b) The thirty-four (34) required credits consist of the following:

(1) Language arts 8 credits

(2) Social studies 4 credits

<b>(3) Mathematics</b>	<b>4 credits</b>
<b>(4) Science</b>	<b>4 credits</b>
<b>(5) Health and wellness</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>(6) Physical education I</b>	<b>2 credits</b>
<b>(7) Career-academic sequence</b>	<b>6 credits</b>
<b>(8) Flex credits</b>	<b>5 credits</b>

**(c) Courses that may be counted toward the required credits prescribed in subsection (b) are subject to the following provisions:**

**(1) Language arts credits must include a balance of literature, composition, and speech. A minimum of six (6) credits of the language arts requirement must be from the English language arts area of study. Two**

**(2) credits may be from:**

- (A) business technology;**
- (B) family and consumer sciences;**
- (C) technology education; or**
- (D) career-technical;**

**courses having predominately language arts content. For a student who successfully completes a Level III world language course, the student's school may waive two (2) credits of the language arts requirement.**

**(2) Social studies credits must include the following:**

- (A) Two (2) credits in United States history.**
- (B) One (1) credit in United States government.**
- (C) One (1) credit in another social studies course, global economics, or consumer economics.**

**(3) Four (4) mathematics credits must be earned after the student enters high school. Mathematics credits earned prior to entering Grade 9 may meet specific course requirements but not the credit requirements for graduation. Such credits are considered elective mathematics credits. The purpose of taking mathematics courses before entering grade 9 is to give the student the opportunity to take an additional mathematics course in high school or take a challenging mathematics course in high school over an extended period of time. If the student completes any of the required mathematics courses before entering high school, the student must complete additional mathematics courses in high school. Mathematics credits must include two (2) credits in Algebra I or Integrated Mathematics I unless a student has completed Algebra I or Integrated Mathematics I before entering high school. A minimum of two (2) credits of the mathematics requirement shall be from the mathematics area of study. Two (2) credits may be from:**

- (A) business technology;**
- (B) family and consumer sciences;**
- (C) technology education; or**
- (D) career-technical;**

**courses having predominately mathematics content.**

**(4) Subject to subdivisions (5) through (7), the health and wellness credit shall be from a course in the health education area of study that has comprehensive health education content.**

**(5) The health and wellness credit requirement may be waived for a student if the student's program includes one (1) of the following:**

**(A) Three (3) credits from the following family and consumer sciences courses:**

- (i) Child development and parenting.**
- (ii) Human development and family wellness.**
- (iii) Interpersonal relationships.**
- (iv) Nutrition and wellness.**
- (v) Orientation to life and careers or adult roles and responsibilities.**

**(B) Two (2) credits from the following health careers education courses offered through career-technical programs:**

- (i) Integrated health sciences I.**
- (ii) Integrated health sciences II.**

**(6) One (1) credit substitution of either a science, family and consumer sciences, or health and physical education credit may be used to fulfill the health and wellness credit requirement for a student who qualifies under the religious objection provision of IC 20-10.1-4-7 (hygiene instruction).**

(7) Science credits must include two (2) credits in Biology I. The four (4) credits of science shall include content from more than one (1) of the major science discipline categories, which are:

- (A) life science;
- (B) physical science; and
- (C) earth and space science.

Two (2) credits may be from family and consumer sciences or career-technical courses having predominately science content.

(8) Flex credits must include five (5) credits in any combination from the following:

- (A) Additional courses to extend the career-academic sequence.
- (B) Courses involving workplace learning, which may include the following courses:
  - (i) Career exploration internship.
  - (ii) Career planning and success skills (internship).
  - (iii) Business cooperative experiences.
  - (iv) Cooperative family and consumer sciences.
  - (v) Industrial cooperative training.
  - (vi) Interdisciplinary cooperative education.
  - (vii) Marketing field experience.
- (C) Advanced career-technical education, college credit.
- (D) Additional courses in:
  - (i) language arts;
  - (ii) social studies;
  - (iii) mathematics;
  - (iv) science;
  - (v) world languages; or
  - (vi) fine arts.

(d) The career-academic sequence is recommended, but not required, if a student, after completing grade 11:

- (1) transfers to a school accredited by the board from a school not accredited by the board, including a school outside Indiana; or
- (2) initially begins course work under the Core 40 diploma and changes to the requirements of this section.

*(Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6-7.1-4)*

#### **511 IAC 6-7.1-5 Core 40 diploma**

**Authority:** IC 20-1-1-6; IC 20-10.1-4; IC 20-10.1-5.7-2

**Affected:** IC 20-10.1-4-5; IC 20-10.1-4.5-2; IC 20-10.1-16-13

Sec. 5. (a) To be eligible for a Core 40 diploma, a student who enters high school in the 2006-2007 school year or a subsequent school year must complete a minimum of forty (40) high school credits. Thirty-four (34) of the credits shall be earned in the areas of study specified in subsection (b), and six (6) of the credits shall be earned from courses in these and other areas of study listed in subsection (b) and 511 IAC 6.1-5.1.

(b) The thirty-four (34) required credits consist of the following:

- |                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| (1) Language arts             | 8 credits |
| (2) Social studies            | 6 credits |
| (3) Mathematics               | 6 credits |
| (4) Science                   | 6 credits |
| (5) Health and wellness       | 1 credit  |
| (6) Physical education I      | 2 credits |
| (7) Directed elective credits | 5 credits |

(c) Courses that may be counted toward the required credits prescribed in subsection (b) are subject to the following provisions:

- (1) Only courses that officially have been designated as Core 40 courses may be counted.

- (2) Language arts credits must include a balance of literature, composition, and speech.
- (3) Social studies credits must include the following:
- (A) Two (2) credits in United States history.
  - (B) One (1) credit in United States government.
  - (C) One (1) credit in economics.
  - (D) Two (2) credits in world history and civilization or two (2) credits in geography and history of the world.
- (4) The mathematics requirement is subject to the following:
- (A) Mathematics credits must include one (1) of the following course sequences:
    - (i) Algebra I, geometry, and algebra II.
    - (ii) Integrated mathematics I, integrated mathematics II, and integrated mathematics III.
  - (B) The student is strongly recommended to earn two (2) mathematics credits during the student's last year in high school. A student who takes mathematics in the senior year is better prepared for mathematics placement exams upon entering a postsecondary education program, an apprenticeship program, or the military. A student who takes mathematics in the senior year is:
    - (i) less likely to require remedial mathematics courses following high school; and
    - (ii) more likely to complete a postsecondary program.
  - (C) The student must earn either:
    - (i) two (2) mathematics credits; or
    - (ii) two (2) credits in physics:  
during the student's last two years in high school.
- (5) Science credits must include the following:
- (A) Two (2) credits in biology.
  - (B) Two (2) credits in chemistry, physics, or integrated chemistry-physics.
  - (C) Two (2) additional credits in Core 40 science courses.
- (6) Directed elective credits must include five (5) credits in any combination from the following:
- (A) World languages.
  - (B) Fine arts.
  - (C) Career-technical.

(d) The student is encouraged to complete a career-academic sequence. (*Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6-7.1-5*)

**511 IAC 6-7.1-6 Core 40 diploma with academic honors**

**Authority:** IC 20-1-1-6; IC 20-10.1-4; IC 20-10.1-5.7-2

**Affected:** IC 20-10.1-4-5; IC 20-10.1-4.5-2; IC 20-10.1-16-13

Sec. 6. (a) To be eligible for a Core 40 diploma with academic honors, a student who enters high school in the 2006-2007 school year or a subsequent school year must complete a minimum of forty-seven (47) high school credits. Depending on the world languages option chosen, thirty-eight (38) or forty (40) of the credits shall be earned in the areas of study specified in subsection (b), and seven (7) or nine (9) of the credits shall be earned from courses in these and other areas of study listed in subsection (b) and 511 IAC 6.1-5.1.

**(b) Required credits consist of the following:**

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| (1) Language arts        | 8 credits      |
| (2) Social studies       | 6 credits      |
| (3) Mathematics          | 8 credits      |
| (4) Science              | 6 credits      |
| (5) Health and wellness  | 1 credit       |
| (6) Physical education I | 2 credits      |
| (7) World languages      | 6 or 8 credits |
| (8) Fine arts            | 2 credits      |

(c) Courses that may be counted toward the required credits prescribed in subsection (b) are subject to the following provisions:

- (1) Only courses that officially have been designated as Core 40 courses may be counted.
- (2) Language arts credits must include a balance of literature, composition, and speech.
- (3) Social studies credits must include the following:
- (A) Two (2) credits in United States history.
  - (B) One (1) credit in United States government.
  - (C) One (1) credit in economics.
  - (D) Two (2) credits in world history and civilization or two (2) credits in geography and history of the world.
- (4) The mathematics requirement is subject to the following:
- (A) Mathematics credits must include one (1) of the following course sequences:
    - (i) Algebra I, geometry, algebra II, and two (2) additional credits in Core 40 mathematics courses.
    - (ii) Integrated mathematics I, integrated mathematics II, integrated mathematics III, and two (2) additional credits in Core 40 mathematics courses.
  - (B) The student is strongly recommended to earn two (2) mathematics credits during the student's last year in high school. A student who takes mathematics in the senior year is better prepared for mathematics placement exams upon entering a postsecondary education program, an apprenticeship program, or the military. A student who takes mathematics in the senior year is:
    - (i) less likely to require remedial mathematics courses following high school; and
    - (ii) more likely to complete a postsecondary program.
  - (C) The student must earn either:
    - (i) two (2) mathematics credits; or
    - (ii) two (2) credits in physics:  
during the student's last two years in high school.
- (5) Science credits must include the following:
- (A) Two (2) credits in biology.
  - (B) Two (2) credits in chemistry, physics, or integrated chemistry-physics.
  - (C) Two (2) additional credits in Core 40 science courses.
- (6) World languages credits must include one (1) of the following:
- (A) Six (6) credits in Core 40 courses in a single world language.
  - (B) Four (4) credits in Core 40 courses in each of two (2) different world languages.
- (d) Only courses in which the student earns a grade of "C" or higher may count toward the credits required in subsections (b) and (f).
- (e) The student must have a cumulative grade point average of "B" or above in all courses.
- (f) The student must complete one (1) of the following:
- (1) Four (4) credits in two (2) courses designated as "advanced placement" under 511 IAC 6.1-5.1 and the corresponding College Board Advanced Placement tests.
  - (2) Dual high school and college credit courses resulting in six (6) transferable college credits.
  - (3) The following combination of advanced placement courses and tests and college credits:
    - (A) Two (2) credits in a course designated as "advanced placement" under 511 IAC 6.1-5.1 and the corresponding College Board Advanced Placement test.
    - (B) Dual high school and college credit courses resulting in three (3) transferable college credits.
  - (4) The SAT test, with a composite score of 1200 or higher.
  - (5) The ACT test, with a composite score of 26 or higher.
  - (6) The International Baccalaureate diploma.
- (g) The student is encouraged to complete a career-academic sequence. (*Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6-7.1-6*)
- 511 IAC 6-7.1-7 Core 40 diploma with technical honors**
- Authority: IC 20-1-1-6; IC 20-10.1-4; IC 20-10.1-5.7-2
- Affected: IC 20-10.1-4-5; IC 20-10.1-4.5-2; IC 20-10.1-16-13

Sec. 7. (a) To be eligible for a Core 40 diploma with technical honors, a student who enters high school in the 2006-2007 school year or a subsequent school year must complete a minimum of forty-seven (47) high school credits. Thirty-seven (37) or thirty-nine (39) of the credits shall be earned in the areas of study specified in subsection (b), and eight (8) or ten (10) of the credits shall be earned from courses in these and other areas of study listed in subsection (b) and 511 IAC 6.1-5.1.

(b) Required credits consist of the following:

(1) Language arts	8 credits
(2) Social studies	6 credits
(3) Mathematics	6 credits
(4) Science	6 credits
(5) Health and wellness	1 credit
(6) Physical education I	2 credits
(7) Career-technical program	8-10 credits

(c) Courses that may be counted toward the required credits prescribed in subsection (b) are subject to the following provisions:

(1) Only courses that officially have been designated as Core 40 courses may be counted.

(2) Language arts credits must include a balance of literature, composition, and speech.

(3) Social studies credits must include the following:

(A) Two (2) credits in United States history.

(B) One (1) credit in United States government.

(C) One (1) credit in economics.

(D) Two (2) credits in world history and civilization or two (2) credits in geography and history of the world.

(4) The mathematics requirement is subject to the following:

(A) Mathematics credits must include one (1) of the following course sequences:

(i) Algebra I, geometry, and algebra II.

(ii) Integrated mathematics I, integrated mathematics II, and integrated mathematics III.

(B) The student is strongly recommended to earn two (2) mathematics credits during the student's last year in high school. A student who takes mathematics in the senior year is better prepared for mathematics placement exams upon entering a postsecondary education program, an apprenticeship program, or the military. A student who takes mathematics in the senior year is:

(i) less likely to require remedial mathematics courses following high school; and

(ii) more likely to complete a postsecondary program.

(C) The student must earn either:

(i) two (2) mathematics credits; or

(ii) two (2) credits in physics:

during the student's last two years in high school.

(5) Science credits must include the following:

(A) Two (2) credits in biology.

(B) Two (2) credits in chemistry, physics, or integrated chemistry-physics.

(C) Two (2) additional credits in Core 40 science courses.

(d) Only courses in which the student earns a grade of "C" or higher may count toward the credits required in subsection (b).

(e) The student must have a cumulative grade point average of "B" or above in all courses.

(f) The student must earn a state-recognized certification or certificate of technical achievement in the career-technical program. (*Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6-7.1-7*)

**511 IAC 6-7.1-8 Correspondence courses; credit**

**Authority:** IC 20-1-1-6; IC 20-10.1-4; IC 20-10.1-5.7-2

**Affected:** IC 20-10.1-4-5; IC 20-10.1-4.5-2; IC 20-10.1-16-13

1       **Sec. 8. A student desiring to complete courses by correspondence first obtains the approval of the local**  
2 **school board or its designee. The local school board has the option of establishing a maximum number of**  
3 **credits acceptable for meeting graduation requirements. Correspondence credits are acceptable only when**  
4 **taken from an institution properly accredited by the appropriate regional accrediting association affiliated**  
5 **with or approved by the council on postsecondary accreditation (COPA). (*Indiana State Board of Education;***  
6 ***511 IAC 6-7.1-8*)**

7  
8 **511 IAC 6-7.1-9 Military experience**

9       **Authority: IC 20-1-1-6; IC 20-10.1-4; IC 20-10.1-5.7-2**

10       **Affected: IC 20-10.1-4-5; IC 20-10.1-4.5-2; IC 20-10.1-16-13**

11  
12       **Sec. 9. (a) Subject to the limitations in this section, a school board may recognize training and experience**  
13 **obtained in the United States armed forces in meeting high school graduation requirements.**

14  
15       **(b) A maximum of four (4) credits may be recognized for basic training in the following areas:**

16       **(1) Physical education** **2 credits**

17       **(2) Health and wellness** **2 credits**

18 **A maximum of one (1) credit may be granted for each three (3) months of service.**

19  
20       **(c) Credit for service training schools may be granted in accordance with recommendations made by the**  
21 **American Council on Education in the publication Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experience in the**  
22 **Armed Forces.**

23  
24       **(d) Credit may be awarded for courses completed in the:**

25       **(1) United States Armed Forces Institute;**

26       **(2) Marine Corps Institute; and**

27       **(3) Coast Guard Institute;**

28 **provided that the course are validated by terminal examinations as recommended by the American Council**  
29 **on Education. Credit may be awarded in recognition of satisfactory achievement on examinations in**  
30 **established high school courses, not including GED tests, offered by the United States Armed Forces Institute**  
31 **and the American Council on Education.**

32  
33       **(e) Credit may be awarded for courses completed through accredited colleges and universities as**  
34 **recommended by the respective colleges and universities. (*Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6-7.1-9*)**